

## A WOMAN IN THE CASE.

### **Mrs. Lockwood's Legal Tilt with a Maryland Judge.**

A short time ago Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, having a case upon the calendar of the Circuit Court of Prince George's county, Md., was notified that it had been assigned a day for hearing, and she accordingly went to Marlborough. When she attempted, however, to call the case up in court before Judge Daniel R. Magruder, that gentleman refused to hear her, claiming that she was not admitted to the bar. To obviate this difficulty, Mr. R. B. Chew proposed her name as a member of the bar, and Judge Magruder took a week to consider in. In the meantime, Mrs. Lockwood, resolving to make this a test case, carefully prepared a brief, stating that she had been a lawyer in good standing in this city for five years, and that there was nothing in the laws of Maryland which prevented her from practicing in any court in that state. On Wednesday Mrs. Lockwood returned to the Marlborough court to hear the decision of the judge. This was adverse to her, in language coarse and rude, heated with passion, and highly denunciatory of women lawyers in general. Mrs. Lockwood asked the judge to put his remarks in writing, but she was roughly commanded to "sit down," and was not even allowed to speak as a citizen in her own behalf. Mrs. Lockwood procured permission to use the court room from the president of the board of commissioners, who has the control of the buildings of the town, and when the judge had adjourned the court she rose to address the members of the bar in defense of her position. Judge Magruder again interrupted her, and said she should not speak in the court room. The lawyers then unanimously invited Mrs. Lockwood to address them, which she did on the court house portico. The gentlemen listened attentively to her statements, and she was heartily applauded. The rules of the court here forbid the admission of members of the bar of cities or states which refuse the like courtesy to members of this bar. This has been enforced by this court before, and Marlborough barristers may find it standing in their way again.